

## Important Notes

- **Mass:** The celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass) is the central point around which parish life and Faith Formation flow. Regular, weekly **participation in the Mass is a must** for families growing in faith.
- **Home:** Make faith part of the rhythms of life at home. We cannot hope to fully form your child in faith just by meeting twice monthly. Get to know other parishioners, Catholic practices and prayers, and talk about your faith together.
- **Participation:** Children enrolled in **Footsteps** should miss no more than **four** sessions per year for the year to be considered complete. **Parents** of children enrolled in Footsteps in Faith are asked to attend at least **half** of the parent sessions offered. If you expect your child to be absent, please notify the Faith Formation Office. This will help prepare the Catechetical team. For the year to be considered complete, your child needs a certain number of hours of formation time. As this cannot be met by our normal sessions, your child needs to also attend at least **five Family Faith Days** during the year.
- **Sacraments:** Students in 2nd grade and up who regularly participate in Mass and completed a year of Faith Formation (last year) are invited to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist this year. This year, do not miss more than **two** Footsteps in Faith sessions and please complete **five** Family Faith events. Contact the Faith Formation Office for details.
- **Program Procedures:** Notify us about medical, behavioral, and allergy conditions on the registration form. Young people with special needs are welcome—contact the Faith Formation Office to inquire.
- If any of your children have **allergies** to food, he or she should bring his or her own snack.
- If a discipline or **behavior** challenge should arise, one parent or guardian may be asked to assist in the classroom or meet individually with the Director of Faith Formation.
- At the **end of the session**, children are to be dismissed only to a parent, guardian, or parent-appointed individual, as per the third-party form. This form will be kept with the student's registration.
- **Other notes:** Footsteps in Faith Families must also be registered in the Parish. We do not discriminate. Alcohol is not permitted on campus when students are present. Please inform the Director of Faith Formation if a change is made to the child's custodial situation. We have a Safe Environment here at OLOL and encourage families to participate in our annual Safe Environment Program.
- The Catechists ask that any projects sent home to be completed should be brought to the next session so they can be discussed. If you miss a session, please pick up your missed handouts from the Faith Formation pickup box in the main Narthex of the Church (by the Usher's Room).
- **Contact:** For any questions or concerns at any time, please contact Lori Crawford in the Parish Office at (239) 267-7088, x242 or by email at [Lori@ourladyoflight.com](mailto:Lori@ourladyoflight.com).

*Our Lady of Light Catholic Community*

# 2013-14

## Footsteps in Faith

### Faith Formation

### Brochure & Handbook

Breaking Bread ♦ Praying  
Teaching ♦ Fellowship



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# What is Footsteps in Faith?



“Footsteps in Faith” is parish-based faith formation for young people age 4 through grade 5 and their parents. This year we also will be joined by groups of individuals seeking Full Communion (participation) with the Church.

Footsteps in Faith is a program for the family that begins with a time of prayer and Faith Sharing in our Parish Center. This is not your parents' drop-off program! Parents and children sit together for our opening, and then we split off in our groups. At that time, the children use a lectionary-based catechesis to explore scripture and doctrines of our Catholic faith. Parents stay for coffee and Adult Faith Formation held the same time as your child—no extra planning or fees on your part!

## Our Sessions:

Choose Sundays 8:45am-10:15am or

Wednesdays 4:00-5:30pm or Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm

## Meeting Dates for 2013-14

### Sundays

Opening Mass & Social  
August 25, 1:00pm

August 25, 1:00	January 12
September 8	January 26
September 22	February 9
October 6	February 23
October 20	March 2
November 3	March 30
November 17	April 13
December 8	April 27
December 15	May 18, 3:00

Closing Mass for all May 18,  
3:00 followed by a Social

### Wednesdays

Opening Mass & Social  
August 25, 1:00pm

August 25, 1:00	February 12
September 11	February 26
September 25	March 5 - <i>All</i>
October 9	<i>come at 5:00 for</i>
October 23	<i>Ash Weds program</i>
November 6	<i>&amp; Mass</i>
November 20	April 2
December 4	April 16
December 18	April 30
January 15	May 18, 3:00
January 29	

Closing Mass for all May 18,  
3:00 followed by a Social

## Three Parts of Footsteps: Children's Formation

For children age 4 through grade 5

We use Pflaum Gospel Weeklies

Visit [www.pflaum.com](http://www.pflaum.com) and click on

“PGW Online Activities” to extend the lessons

Start with Group Prayer in the Parish Center

Grade-level formation follows in our Classrooms



## Family Faith

You need 5 of these

Rather than meet every week during the year, we meet less often (schedule at left) and invite you to complete your remaining “required” hours by way of Family Faith events. You need no less than five events of your choosing during the year to meet the Diocesan minimum hours required. You are welcome to come to as many of the almost 20 opportunities during the year that you like. These Family Faith Events are seasonal, family-friendly, and fun! Details on the program content will be released by the month prior to the Family Faith day. All are welcome, bring a friend.



## Footsteps in Faith for Adults

Adult Formation sessions offered for all adults (Catholic or not) during your child's formation session.

Parents should plan to attend at least **half** of the offered parent sessions over the course of the year.



### ♦ **Catholicism** video series & discussion with Fr. Robert Barron

For adults who are looking for a deeper understanding of the “basics” of Catholicism. Ideal for those new to our program and for those Adults who wish to prepare for sacraments.

### ♦ **Catholicism 201**

For Catholics who have a solid foundation in the teachings of the church and wish to extend their understanding so they can answer the tougher questions posed by their children, friends, and family about the faith. Bring your questions and your notepaper—this “class” will help you to defend your faith in amazing new ways!

Adults interested in becoming Catholic or celebrating sacraments are invited to contact Lori in the Office of Faith Formation.